

SEN. SETH BONGARTZ, VICE CHAIR
SEN. SCOTT BECK
SEN. ROBERT PLUNKETT
SEN. DAVID WEEKS



REP. TREVOR SQUIRRELL, CHAIR
REP. MARK HIGLEY
REP. CAROL ODE
REP. LARRY SATCOWITZ

STATE OF VERMONT

Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR)

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

MINUTES

March 19, 2026

The Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules met on Thursday, March 19, 2026, beginning at 8:00 a.m. in room 10 of the State House Building in Montpelier, Vermont.

The following members were present:

Sen. Seth Bongartz, Vice Chair
Sen. Scott Beck
Sen. Robert Plunkett
Sen. David Weeks

Rep. Trevor Squirrell, Chair
Rep. Mark Higley
Rep. Carol Ode
Rep. Larry Satcowitz

Staff present:

Bradley Showman
Lindsey Schreier

Committee Counsel
Committee Assistant

Approval of Prior Minutes

On motion of Rep. Ode, the February 26, 2026, meeting minutes were approved.

Review of Rules

The Committee reviewed the following rules:

25-P021 - Rules for the Designation and Operation of Home Health Agencies. Stuart Schurr, General Counsel, Pam Cota, Director of Survey and Certification, and Angela McMann, Director of Adult Services, of the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living (DAIL), explained the rule and answered questions from the Committee. Eric Covey, Interim Executive Director, VNAs of Vermont, and Kaili Kuiper, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, and Leah Burdick, Staff Attorney, of Vermont Legal Aid also testified before the Committee.

This rule amendment changes certain “designated services” that home health agencies are required to provide. This amendment would remove Choices for Care services, including personal care, respite, companionship, and homemaker services, from the rule’s definition of

“designated services” so that home health agencies are not out of compliance with the rule if they do not provide those services.

The Committee asked DAIL for additional information on how the Choices for Care services would continue to be provided through other means, for information on available funding to provide these services, and for DAIL to further confer with Vermont Legal Aid on its comments. The Committee continued this rule to the March 26, 2026, meeting.

25-P038 - Vermont Securities Regulations. Russ McCracken, Assistant General Counsel, Department of Financial Regulation, explained the rule and answered questions from the Committee.

This rule amendment updates requirements for issuing securities in Vermont and regulating those who provide investment advice and offer and sell securities to the public. This amendment includes requirements related to electronic filings, errors and omissions insurance, restitution assistance, privacy protection, and updates regarding provisions to match national model rules from the North American Securities Administrators Association.

On motion of Sen. Weeks, the Committee approved the rule.

25-P047 - Vermont Residential Building Energy Standards (RBES) Amendments. Brittney Wilson, Deputy Commissioner, Benjamin Civiletti, Special Counsel, and Kelly Launder, Assistant Director of Efficiency and Energy Resources, of the Department of Public Service explained the rule and answered questions from the Committee.

This rule amendment updates the Vermont Residential Building Energy Standards (RBES) that regulate aspects of the design and construction of residential buildings that relate to the efficient use of energy. This amendment permits architects, builders, and other building professionals to follow either the 2020 RBES or the 2024 RBES for purposes of complying with Vermont’s residential building energy code.

The Committee permitted the witnesses to testify on this rule and the following rule and the Committee heard both rules together.

25-P048 - Vermont Commercial Building Energy Standards (CBES) Amendments. Brittney Wilson, Deputy Commissioner, Benjamin Civiletti, Special Counsel, and Kelly Launder, Assistant Director of Efficiency and Energy Resources, of the Department of Public Service explained the rule and answered questions from the Committee.

This rule amendment updates the Vermont Commercial Building Energy Standards (CBES) that regulate aspects of the design and construction of commercial buildings that relate to the efficient use of energy. This amendment permits architects, builders, and other building professionals to

follow either the 2020 CBES or the 2024 CBES for purposes of complying with Vermont's commercial building energy code.

Regarding both 25-P047 and 25-P048, the Committee requested that the Department of Public Service provide additional information on cost comparisons between complying with the 2020 and 2024 versions of each rule. The Committee also asked the Department to further testify regarding statutory authority for these rules. The Committee requested additional information regarding whether having two versions of each rule available for compliance would be confusing for the public. The Committee continued this rule and rule 25-P047 to the March 26, 2026, meeting.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The Committee adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for March 26, 2026, beginning at 8:00 a.m. in room 10 of the State House Building in Montpelier, Vermont.

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley Showman
Committee Counsel

cc: APA Clerk, Secretary of State
ICAR, Agency of Administration